

**Quarterly Issues and Programming Report  
July 2010 thru Sept 2010**

**WCTX/MyTV9**

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## **Community Issues:**

### **July:**

7/01/10: Good Morning Ct 7am - :44

#### **"NH Violence Vigil"**

This week's unintended shooting of a 11-year old boy on a New Haven street is making people angry and afraid. Some even say they're ready to move out of the city. Yesterday people gathered on Dixwell Avenue near the convenience store where that boy was caught in the crossfire of what police are calling a 'neighborhood dispute'. The boy's injuries are not life-threatening. But that's not the point -- parents, children and community activists are still upset. Police say they will increase patrols in the area.

7/21/10: Good Morning CT 7am – 1:50

#### **"Waterbury Counseling"**

Today grief counselors will be helping students in Waterbury cope with the loss of a classmate. 16 year old Chloe Ottman was violently killed over the weekend. News 8's Crystal Haynes is here with more on her case. Crosby High classmates of Chole Ottman will be given an outlet for their grief today after the 16 year old was raped and killed this past weekend. Her friend 19 year old Fransico Cruz is facing charges in her violent death. Counseling sessions will be set up from 8 to 1 today at the school. In a prepared statement, Assistant Principal Joseph Nole said the school community is devastated and deeply saddened. The Ottman family is calling for justice in her violent death. Ottman's uncle is talking to the media... representing the family in their time of grief. Ottman's family says they will monitor the legal proceedings... and at the end of it make an appearance in full force.

7/29/10: News 8 at 10pm - :40

#### **"Cows Eat Sunflowers"**

After a hugely successful sunflower fundraiser -- big changes this week at a Griswold Farm. The cows have taken over the once colorful fields which drew tens of thousands last week and raised a record one hundred thousand dollars for the Make a Wish foundation. Duane Button says the cows help clear his Buttonwood Farm fields even though some folks hate to see the flowers go. The cows eat the leaves and the flowers... and that helps the farmer. If the sunflower seeds weren't eaten, they would turn into weeds and compete with what he plants for next year.

7/31/10: News 8 at 10pm - :40

#### **"Kick for a Cause"**

Hundreds of women were out enjoying this great weather in Wallingford.. and raising money for charity at the same time. The Kick for a Cause soccer tournament is going on all weekend at Veteran's Memorial Field in Wallingford. Teams from across Connecticut as well as New York, Massachusetts and Rhode Island came out to compete. News 8's Annie Rourke is playing in the tournament this weekend. All of the proceeds from Kick for a Cause go to benefit Meriden-Wallingford Chrysalis which provides help for victims of domestic abuse.

## **August:**

8/09/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :45

### **"Manchester Vigil"**

Today Governor Rell is calling for a moment of silence across the state... to honor the victims from the beer distribution company killed last week. This as mourners in Manchester hold a candlelight vigil to remember lives lost. News 8's Kent Pierce....here now with that part of the story. The investigation and explanation are over, now it is time to remember and honor the 8 men Omar Thornton shot and killed last Tuesday. Governor Rell is calling today a day of remembrance. She's asking people across the state to observe a moment of silence at 9:15 this morning. Not silence but somber music at a candlelight memorial last night. Hundreds sat in Manchester's Center Memorial Park to remember all 8 victims. Omar Thornton went on a shooting rampage at Hartford Distributors after his bosses forced him to resign for stealing beer. He killed 8 and wounded 2 before turning the gun on himself. Some came to the candlelight vigil because they had a connection to the businesses or to one of those killed. Others were people from the community who just wanted to show their support. About 500 people came to that park for the vigil. The Manchester town manager assured families and friends of the victims that the town is there to embrace them. He called the memorial a "good end to an awful, awful week."

8/19/10: News 8 at 10pm - :30

### **"HFTD Anti-Violence Rally"**

An anti-violence rally was held in Hartford today. Mothers United Against Violence held the rally and prayer vigil on Center Street this evening. One community leader says the rally in response to the people who shot at a four-year-old's home after the little girl was killed in a car crash.

8/23/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :45

### **"Islamic Center Rallies"**

Folks on both sides of the issue were out in force this weekend... demonstrating for and against the proposed Islamic cultural center about two blocks from the World Trade Center site. Protesters stood just blocks from the site of the 9-11 attacks... and just around the corner was the counter-demonstration. Opponents still saying you can't build something so close to hallowed ground. Supporters say this is the perfect spot. If the weekend protestors are any indication... the debate over the project may not quiet down anytime soon.

## **September:**

9/04/10: News 8 at 10pm - :30

### **"Wiffle Ball Tourney"**

Family and supporters hit the field for a Wiffleball tournament today. In honor of a child who underwent a successful heart transplant. 14-year old Teddy Kaplita had the surgery at Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital in New York. Now people are pitching in at Cheshire's Bartlem Park to help Teddy and his Family on a long road to recovery. All of the money raised at the event... will help Teddy's family pay off some of the medical bills that are not covered by his insurance.

9/09/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :30

### **"Sickle Cell Walk"**

September is National Sickle Cell Awareness month. Sickle Cell is an inherited blood cell disorder found primarily in the African-American, Hispanic and Mediterranean community. Doctors say progress is being made. Children born with the disease are now living longer thanks to anti-biotics. In Connecticut alone there are more than 12-hundred people with Sickle Cell disease. This Saturday, September 11th... the 19th annual Sickle Cell Disease walk will be held at 9 A-M at East Rock Park in New Haven.

9/22/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :30

**“Free Flu Shots”**

CVS Pharmacy is teaming up with Direct Relief USA offering free flu shots for uninsured patients. Here in Connecticut six community clinics and health centers are benefitting. Free vouchers are being handed out at -- East Hartford Community Healthcare, Cornell Scott - Hill Health Center in New Haven, AmeriCares Free Clinics in Stamford, Kevin's Community Center in Newtown, Generations Family Health Center in Willimantic and in Waterbury, StayWell Health Center.

**Health:**

**July:**

7/06/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :45

**“Party Eating Tips”**

Health news this morning... if you're getting ready to enjoy lots of summer parties... some help to get you partying without packing on the pounds. Here are some tips from Health Magazine to let you keep that bikini body. **Eat in slow-mo** ... When you eat slower you are usually eating less and enjoying what you do eat more. That's from author of the book 'Naturally Thin'... Bethenny Frankel. **Use the sandwich technique** ... What it means... Sandwich high-calorie foods between two high fiber, lower-calorie foods. This will trick your body into feeling fuller without chowing down the high-calorie treat. **A third tip... Don't be a light-food martyr** ... If you want ribs have them. If you aren't going to be happy with the skinless chicken breast... splurge with a smaller portion of something you want.

7/07/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :30

**“Contact Craze”**

Blame Lady Gaga. That can actually be said for a lot of things but we're talking about the pop star's eye-catching look that's created a dangerous contact lens craze. Lady Gaga's huge doe-like stare was computer generated for this video. It was inspired by Japanese style cartoons called anime. But now a lot of American girls are trying to copy the look with circle contact lenses. They are buying them off the internet. Doctors say it's dangerous. If the contacts don't fit properly they can scratch the cornea, which can cause vision problems.

7/19/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :30

**“Microneedle Flu Shot”**

How would you like to get the annual flu vaccine... without a huge shot? Researchers developing a new method of vaccine delivery are hoping one day, people will be able to get their annual flu shots in the mail in the form of a patch. The patch would have microneedles so small you wouldn't be able to feel them attached like a band aid. As soon as you put it on, the little needles go into the skin, release the vaccine and then dissolve ... quick and painless.

7/30/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :30

**“Drinking and Arthritis”**

In Health news this morning it looks like drinking alcohol may help keep rheumatoid arthritis away. New research shows that its because it may dampen the body's immune response. Now we're not telling you to overdo it... but alcohol consumption may also keep the condition from getting worse. Researchers are also not advising drinking as a cure for arthritis right now... these findings are preliminary.

## **August:**

8/03/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :25

### **"Sister Health"**

Health news this morning...Having a sister may actually be good for your emotional health. That's what a new study finds. According to new research... having a sister protects teens from feeling lonely... unloved... guilty and fearful. Researchers from Brigham Young University studied nearly 4-hundred families from Seattle with two or more children. They found loving brothers and sisters promote behaviors like kindness and generosity. But... having a sister was more likely to prevent depression.

8/16/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :35

### **"Old Makeup"**

A warning this morning ... before you wake up and put your "face" on check the expiration date on your makeup. Just like food, makeup has a shelf life and when it expires experts say it's time to toss it out. Mascara has a shelf life of about three months. Lotions, creams and things made with water have a one year shelf life. Powder can last about two years. You are exposing yourself to bacterial infections, conjunctivitis, other types of eye infections, fungal infections. If you do get an infection, see a doctor and throw away any opened makeup products. To prevent contamination keep your fingers out of the make up jars and use a cotton swab or a brush. And your brush should be cleaned at least once a week in anti-bacterial soap.

8/28/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :25

### **"Cesarean Sections"**

Over 20 percent of women giving birth end up having a Cesarean section delivery. Women used to receive \*protective antibiotics\* after delivering their baby. But now ...according to new guidelines from the American College of Obstetricians... it's safer for women to take antibiotics about an hour ...before surgery in order to ward off infection. The idea is to give the antibiotic early enough.... so that blood levels reach bacteria-killing levels before the incision is made. Administering the drugs.... before delivery... does not put the baby in any danger.

## **September:**

9/02/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :20

### **"Sleep and Death for Men"**

A new study shows a lack of sleep can be life-threatening for men. New research from the Penn State College of Medicine found men who suffer from insomnia are at an increased risk of death than men who get proper rest. The study found those who got less than six hour of sleep a night were four times more likely to die over a 14-year period. Doctors recommend adults get seven to eight hours of sleep a night.

9/15/10: Good Morning CT 7am - "30

### **"Handshake/Live Long"**

British researchers are learning your handshake could mean more than just a polite greeting. Looks like a firm handshake could be a sign of a longer life expectancy. Scientists at the Medical Research Council say elderly people who could still give a firm handshake and walk at a brisk pace were likely to outlive their peers who move slower. The researchers learned just simple measures like shaking hands walking or getting up and down from a chair are connected to how long people live.

9/18/10: News 8 at 10pm – :30

**“Women & Sugar Pill”**

Medical surveys show that low sex drive affects nearly 40 percent of women in this country. But the female version of Viagra was shot down this summer by the FDA. Still, companies are trying to come up with a pill that works. But that might not be necessary according to a new study. Researchers gave 25 percent of participants a placebo. Surprisingly, after 3 months 35 percent of those women reported significant improvement in their sex lives. Experts concluded that just talking about problems in the bedroom can be just as effective as potions and pills.

**Education:**

**July:**

7/07/10: News 8 at 10pm - :20

**“Hartford Schools/Troubled Students”**

A state investigation finds Hartford Public Schools have segregated students with emotional and behavioral disorders. The investigation also finds those same students have been discriminated against. The independent Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities released the result of the two year investigation. A spokesperson for the school system says officials just received the report and will issue a statement Thursday.

7/16/10: Good Morning CT 7am – 1:25

**“NH Mastery Tests”**

They've taken the test and today Connecticut's 10th graders will see their CAPT scores. The results come one day after the state's mastery test results were released. For the whole state, the big news about the Connecticut Mastery Tests is the achievement gap. Overall, minority students made big gains from last year - double digit gains in math and reading. And the state's average for all students went up. Most of the state's largest districts saw improvements, too. In Bridgeport, proficiency went up from last year in most grades in most subjects. 6th grade reading scores saw a particularly big jump. New Haven had 3 percent growth rates in reading and math, and some schools had a 100 percent proficiency in certain subjects by 5th graders. Hartford schools had most scores increase. 6th graders and 8th graders did especially well, and in magnet schools run by the Capitol Region Education Council, some groups outperformed the state average by as much as 26 percent. In Waterbury, the news is not as good, some scores are up, some are down, overall there's not much change from last year. And in New London, the district put up significant gains, especially in math for most grades. The Connecticut Mastery Tests measure grades 3 through 8 and help determine if schools are meeting the federal No Child Left Behind standards. Later today, we'll get the results for the CAP tests - they do much the same thing, but just for 10th graders.

7/23/10: News 8 at 10pm - :30

**“UCONN Med School Warning”**

A warning for The University of Connecticut School of Medicine. One accreditation group says it doesn't fully comply with 15 out of 132 standards. Concerns include the school's economic future, not enough teachers, and inadequate financial aid services. UConn says none of the citations deal with the quality of education.

7/27/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :25

**“Education Civil Rights”**

Civil Rights' leaders are criticizing the Obama's Administration's education reform programs. Eight organizations including the NAACP say the Education Department is promoting ineffective ways to help failing schools. They say the 4 billion dollar "Race to the Top" grant competition

leaves out many minority students. Education secretary Arne Duncan says, "The administration is dedicated to equity in education and will work with the civil rights community to close the achievement gap."

## **August:**

8/16/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :35

### **"Pre K New Haven"**

A stepped up effort to get pre-schoolers "on the bus". Folks from The New Haven Public School district are heading out into the community today to get youngsters signed up for pre-K. You have to register your kids for Kindergarten. You don't have to but you can register your kids for pre-Kindergarten, and the experts say you should. That's why folks from the New Haven school system will be going around the city this week encouraging people to sign their kids up. Pre-K is open to children ages 3 to 5. To sign your kid up, you need his or her birth certificate, proof of income, because some programs are specific to low-income families, and a utility bill to prove you live in New Haven. School officials are going to be signing kids up all over the city in a big yellow school bus this week. The first stop is today here at the Hill Health Center on Columbus Avenue, from 10 a.m. to noon. Experts say going to pre kindergarten gives children the tools they need to be prepared for Kindergarten, and early childhood education can close the achievement gap and help make for better students all the way through college.

8/23/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :20

### **"Dorm Hazards"**

A warning this morning for college students from Connecticut Light and Power. Students are being cautioned about potential electrical hazards as they return to their dorms, rented homes, fraternities, and sororities. CL & P is warning against overloading outlets, and letting notebooks or other flammable items get too close to appliances. The National Fire Protection Association says more than 56-hundred fires are reported... on average each year on U-S school and college campuses.

8/25/10: News 8 at 10pm - :30

### **"Shelton Busing"**

Last night we told you about some Shelton parents who were angry about the school districts plan to stop bussing kids to an Arts magnet school. Today, those parents got a little bit of good news. The board of education now says they will bus students to an after-school program in Trumbull for the first 30-days of school. Parents were really upset that they didn't get the news about the bus route being dropped until last week. The problem is money. Parents put together a committee tonight trying to come up with a solution.

8/31/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :20

### **"CT Achievement Gap"**

Unfortunately, Connecticut is dead last in the so-called "Achievement gap"--the gap between "low income" kids in the inner cities...and other kids. Connecticut ranks 50th out of 50th in the achievement gap... that disproportionately impacts Latino and African-American Students. A Special Commission investigating the problem issued a status report yesterday. It means a large portion of the population won't have the basic reading and math skills needed to be skilled workers. It also means fewer people will be working and paying taxes...and \*more\* people will need benefits. The Commission, made up of business leaders and educators will make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature in about 2 months. They say not all of the solutions will involve more spending but one idea is "universal Pre-Kindergarten".

## **September:**

9/1/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :30

### **"Wallingford Schools"**

Schools in Wallingford are beginning a new year with big changes for everyone. They've reconfigured the elementary have been reconfigured to deal with budget concerns. Now they've got some Kindergarten through Second Grade schools and some that are for grades Three, Four and Five. Both teachers and students are getting used to the new schools. The reconfigured schools will host open houses in October to get feedback from parents.

9/17/10: Good Morning CT 7am - 1:30

### **"Colleges and Dating Violence"**

One out of every three college students admits to being the victim of some kind of dating violence, so a coalition of Connecticut colleges and Universities is trying to get students to think about when they should be raising a red flag about a friend's relationship." The red flags can be hard to spot just like the behaviors they're here to educate people about. There are a couple hundred of these flags around Quinnipiac University and even more around eight other campuses in the state. Each one is printed with a website - red flag campaign dot org - designed to get college kids thinking about what relationships are supposed to be like. The red flag campaign is centered around eight behaviors that should be "red flags" that someone is in the wrong kind of relationship. Those behaviors are: emotional abuse, coercion, excessive jealousy, isolation, sexual or physical assault, blaming the victim for inappropriate behavior, stalking on the part of the perpetrator and stalking on the part of the victim. If a student sees one of those behaviors in a friend's relationship, he or she should take that friend aside and say something. "The big push to educate students about the red flags is going on now, but the hope is they will remember all those red flags all year long. On the scene in Hamden, I'm Kent Pierce, News8."

9/22/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :35

### **"CSU Tuition Proposal"**

Some college students in Connecticut may not have to pay more for classes next year. The Connecticut State University System's board of trustees is considering freezing tuition and fees at Central, Southern, Eastern and Western. They'll vote on that proposal and one to freeze salaries for management and non-union employees tomorrow. The freeze would be the first since the 1999-2000 academic year.

## **Crime:**

## **July:**

7/01/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :27

### **"NHPD New Technology"**

Police in New Haven are also getting something new to fight crime. There are 12 new squad cars in the fleet. They've also got five new motorcycles -- equipped with computers. Officers are also getting bluetooth to allow them to better hear dispatch communications and they've been using something called "shot spotter" technology -- which picks up soundwaves from gunshots to determine where guns are being fired. The money to pay for the upgrades comes from federal, state and local funding.

7/12/10: News 8 at 10pm - :20

### **"Bristol Sexual Assault"**

A Bristol man is facing charges tonight accused of sexually assaulting a 14 year old girl. 39 year old Henry Collin is facing a couple of sex crime charges. Police say the assault happened on



Collin's boat that was docked in Chester. The girl's father called police. Collin is out on 50 thousand dollars bond. He's due back in court later this month.

7/21/10: News 8 at 10pm - :25

**"Deep River Embezzlement"**

No jail time for the teller at a Deep River bank who admitted stealing more than 47-thousand dollars. News 8's camera the only one outside Middlesex Superior court as 47 year old Laura Smith left a free woman... her 8 year sentence suspended. Smith says a gambling problem led her to embezzle money from deposits made by the owner of an Old Saybrook business - a customer at the Liberty Bank in Deep River where Smith worked. That business owner who did not want to be identified spoke only to News 8 about what she feels is a betrayal by someone she considered a friend. The victim says she is also disappointed that her requests to speak with the president of Liberty Bank were denied. The bank had no comment today.

7/28/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :15

**"NH Drug Arrest"**

New Haven's new anti-street-crime unit makes its first arrest. 37 year old Anthony Oden was apprehended Monday night by the "Street Interdiction Unit." Police say he had a gun, and was dealing crack at Criscuolo Park. He faces several charges.

**August:**

8/05/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :25

**"Bridgeport Fugitive Wanted"**

Bridgeport police are looking for a man... who's wanted for assaulting his girlfriend. Police say Orlando Neish stabbed his girlfriend back in June... and then shot her in the leg and shoulder. According to police a child witnessed the crime. Police have a warrant out for Neish's arrest. If you have any information that can help... you're being asked to give Bridgeport police a call.

8/17/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :40

**"N Haven Homicide Arrest"**

The family of a man shot near a New haven nightclub... crowded into a courtroom to see the three people charged in the crime... appear before a judge. 21 year old Javier Cosme of Bridgeport was shot Saturday morning in an Orange Street parking lot. Witnesses say 22 year old Joshua Cruz of Hartford got a gun out of a car and shot Cosme once... then twice more as he fell to the ground. Cruz faces murder charges. William Rivera and Jose Ramos, both of Hartford... are each charged as accessories to murder.

8/26/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :45

**"Mansfield Stabbing"**

35 times... that's how many times police say a mother from Mansfield stabbed her own son. Earlier this week Robbin Foster claimed it was the teen next door who stabbed her 16-year old autistic son who can't hear or speak. But detectives say Foster eventually admitted she had attacked her own son and told them after years of caregiving she said she just wanted the pressure off her shoulders. The father of the boy Foster accused... is speaking out... about the call he received... telling him his son was cleared of the crime. Foster now faces a mandatory five-year prison sentence. Her injured son is still in the hospital.

**September:**

9/01/10: News 8 at 10pm - 1:00

**"NH Police Chief"**

The New Haven Register first reported the story on it's website Wednesday afternoon...and News 8 independently confirmed the union for the New Haven Police Department is considering a "no-confidence" vote for newly appointed police chief Frank Limon. New Haven Mayor John DeStefano, who seems to consistently deal with union issues across many genres of jobs, believes the relationship between the leadership and the rank and file needs time. Mayor DeStefano says one positive to take from the department is crime statistics, which, for the most part, are down. Shootings are down a third, but homocides are up. But he believes even if a "no-confidence" vote takes place, it will not impact the progress the department is making.

9/12/10: News 8 at 10pm - :45

**"Imam House Vandalism"**

Hamden Police are trying to figure out if an act of vandalism at a local Muslim leader's home was random. Doctor Abdul-Majid Karim Hasan is the Imam at the Hasan Islamic Center in Hamden. The family has lived in the neighborhood for 20 years and say they've never had a problem until Saturday, the anniversary of the 9-11 attacks, when someone spray painted an obscenity on the side of their home. The Hasan's say they are not ready to call it a hate crime yet. The Hasan Islamic Center has been in Connecticut for 50 years. It was the first in the state. Hasan has been leading it since 1971.

9/22/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :15

**"NH Crime"**

New Haven's mayor and police chief are moving quickly to ensure safety after a shootout in the city's club district this past weekend. Early Sunday morning, police responded to reports of a fight between two groups of people. Then a suspect and police exchanged gunfire. Now the area will be a primary focus for the police department. More officers will be on duty, there will be brighter lights in parking lots and more surveillance cameras. The city hopes the moves will prevent future crimes. They're also cracking down on things like public drinking and some of the promotions that the clubs put on like foam nights and dollar pitcher nights.

**Consumer Issues:**

**July:**

7/02/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :15

**"Toyota Recall"**

Another major recall for Toyota to tell you about. The company is now recalling about.. 270-thousand vehicles worldwide....to fix those problem engines. Toyota says the engines in some Lexus sedans and Crown models could stall while they're moving.

7/08/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :25

**"Wells Fargo Mortgages"**

Wells Fargo is getting out of the 'sub-prime mortgage' business and will close its 100-year old finance division. The bank has been battling heavy losses and said its financial offices were no longer necessary. The move will mean the loss of about 28-hundred jobs.

7/13/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :20

**"IPHONE Consumer"**

And consumer reports says it will not recommend buying the i-phone four. The magazine blamed a hardware flaw with the phone's antenna for dropped calls - while apple is blaming a software bug for the problem. The i-phone four made its debut last month selling one-point-seven million phones in the first three days.

7/27/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :25

**"Baby Recliner Recall"**

We have a recall to tell you about this morning. First for parents with infants ... "Nap Nanny recliners"... which are supposed to help fussy babies sleep better... have been recalled after a four month old child died. The recliner was being used in a crib... when a baby fell over the side and got caught between the recliner and the crib. If you have one you should contact the company. For more information, log on to our website at wtnh-dot-com.

**August:**

8/12/10: News 8 at 10pm - :30

**"Tax Free Week"**

The annual break in the state sales tax starts this Sunday. It's a chance to save on back to school shopping. Chief Capitol Correspondent Mark Davis took on a mall today in Farmington. We're here on the scene at West Farms Mall and J.C. Penny and the fact of the matter is the 'Sales Tax Free' week can save you a lot of money especially if you've got a lot of kids and you're expecting to spend a lot of money...but it's only for one week. During the rest of the year all clothing and shoes that cost 50 dollars or more are taxed at 6 percent....but starting Sunday there's no tax on clothing and shoes that cost less than 300 dollars. This is the tenth year the state has had the 'sales tax free' week to stimulate sales in the middle of August...and to help with the cost of back to school. Governor Rell, who is known to like a bargain, kicked off the promotion today here at Westfarms. The merchants association says it does drive up sales of other items. The state actually loses an estimated 3-and-a-half million dollars in tax revenue during the 'sales tax free' week...but leaders of both political parties think the break for residents is worth it.

8/19/10: News 8 at 10pm - :30

**"New Alliance Merger"**

A community bank with Connecticut roots. It's what's drawn many customers to New Haven's New Alliance Bank. But it's about to become a banking heavyweight... merging with First Niagara Financial Group out of Buffalo, New York. The transaction will create a top 25 U-S bank. The change is unsettling to some.

8/20/10: News 8 at 10pm - :20

**"Eggs Recall"**

The egg recall we've been telling you about... is expanding. A second Iowa farm is recalling eggs because of salmonella poisoning. The FDA says more than a thousand people have gotten sick. No word if this latest recall.... by Iowa's Hillandale Farms is connected to Wright County egg... the farm that issued a recall earlier this week. The eggs were sold under the brand names Hillandale Farms, Sunny Farms, Sunny Meadow, Wholesome Farms and West Creek.

**September:**

9/09/10: News 8 at 10pm - :20

**"Milk Recall"**

Check your refrigerator - Inspectors in New York have learned that milk sold in five states, including Connecticut, may not have been properly pasteurized. The milk was produced at the Midlands Farm plant outside Albany. The company is voluntarily recalling its milk. The milk was sold under the names Midland Farms, Corrado's Market, Jersey Dairy Farms and Trade Fair Premium with a September 24-th use by date. Unpasteurized milk may contain listeria and salmonella.

9/14/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :15

**"Toyota New Hybrids"**

Toyota is trying to turn the page on its recent recall mess by focusing on 'green' cars. The automaker will roll out six new hybrid gasoline-electric vehicles by 2012. The plan calls for two new Lexus models and four under the Toyota brand.

9/15/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :15

**"Cough Syrup Danger"**

Some cough medicines may soon be available by prescription only. The FDA says it's considering the move because many people are misusing over-the-counter cough suppressants. Most of them teenagers. A new report shows one-point-three-million teens admitted to abusing over-the-counter cough suppressants over the past year. The ingredient in these medicines that creates a high is known as 'dex'. Cough medicine makers say their products should stay over the counter... and parents are the key to curbing abuse. An FDA committee will forward its recommendation to the FDA for a final decision.

**Government, Economy, & Law**

**July:**

7/16/10: News 8 at 10pm - :20

**"Bridgeport FEMA Storm Report"**

If you have damage from that Bridgeport tornado but didn't report it yet you're out of luck. Today was the deadline for filing damage reports. The tornado touched down on June 24<sup>th</sup> packing 100 mile per hour winds. Families and businesses were hit hard... especially folks on the city's East end. Once the state gets all of the damage reports, it can file for aid from the federal government.

7/19/10: News 8 at 10pm - :20

**"New Haven Tax Assessment"**

Many Taxpayers in New Haven are angry and want the Tax Assessor to resign. And they've got the board of Alderman behind them. Tax payers are angry with Assessor Bill O'Brien for wide-spread assessment hikes and alleged unprofessional service from O'Brien's office. New Haven's 12 Alderman signed and sent a letter to City Hall of Friday. News 8 Asked Mayor Destefano today if he was going to take any action. The mayor responded by saying people are frustrated many things in today's economy. In addition to the customer service complaints,, taxpayers are upset over tax hikes for seniors and increased assessments for cars and personal property...

7/22/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :50

**"USDA Flap"**

An about-face for the government this morning. An employee with the Department of Agriculture who was fired for comments taken out of context and posted on-line... gets a White House apology and a new job offer. In 48 hours... Shirley Sherrod went from a forced U-S-D-A resignation to a reinforced public apology. Conservative blogs and then cable TV ran a speech of Sherrod talking about a farmer who needed her help. First she was branded a racist because of her comments... but it turns out her speech continued with how she helped the farmer and still has his support today... more than 20 years later. Sherrod says she needs time to talk it over the new job offer with her family before deciding whether to accept.

7/29/10: News 8 at 10pm - :20

**"Mohegan Profits Dip"**

The tough economy is taking a bite out of Mohegan Sun's Profits. The Tribe has released new figures... that show a 17-percent drop during the April to June period. That's a 45-million dollar loss. The casino mainly blames lower table games revenue... and a continued weakness in consumer spending.

**August:**

8/10/10: News 8 at 10pm - :20

**"House Passes Job Bill"**

The jobs bill that called the House into a special session... is now law. As expected, lawmakers passed the 26 billion dollar legislation today. The bill then went to President Obama who signed it as soon as it crossed his desk. Democrats say the legislation will protect 300-thousand teachers and government workers from layoffs. But Republicans call it a payoff to unions. They say Congress needs to stop spending.

8/20/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :25

**"CT Job Numbers"**

The summer weather has been hot... but the economy cooled off. Figures from the state Department of Labor show... the state lost 13-hundred jobs last month. That breaks a string of six consecutive months of gains in the state. The Greatest losses were in the areas of education and business and professional services. A question many are now asking... can we expect a turn-around in the fall? Since last December Connecticut actually added a total of more than 12-thousand jobs.

8/26/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :20

**"Army GED Program Over"**

A program that helped high school dropouts get their GEDs and become soldiers is coming to an end. The program started in 2008 when the Army was scrambling to find people to enlist to fight the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, but with the economy the way it is now, more people with high school diplomas are deciding to join the Army. Since 2008, nearly 3-thousand high school dropouts have earned their GEDs and joined the frontlines.

8/29/10: News 8 at 10pm - :50

**"Foreclosure Tour"**

The real estate market in Connecticut has been sagging for several years. The economy is partially to blame, along with a low level of buyer confidence. News 8's Marc Robbins -- on the scene in Ansonia... with a Realtor who's trying to break the recent downward trend. This idea came from way out west in California where foreclosures hit that real estate market very hard a couple of years ago. Now the idea makes its way all the across the country to Connecticut where people hope to take advantage. What's it's all about is Frank Hoinsky renting a bus, bringing along some home buying experts and getting a mix of potential buyers together. This tour will provide the opportunity to see seven houses in a 2 hour span. Alright so take your finances, effort and desire and climb on board to let the tour begin. Things run quite orderly as the bus pulls up and everyone gets off and files through each house. This is just a relatively quick look. If you're interest is piqued then you can make a full appointment for another viewing.

## **September:**

9/09/10: News 8 at 10pm – 35

### **“Stem Cell Ruling”**

Federal funding of stem cell research will continue for now despite a judge's ruling that would stop it. Today a federal appeals court overruled that judge at least for now. The appeals court says more time is needed to consider the government's emergency appeal keep federal funding. There are 22 stem cell projects around the country receiving federal funds right now and may have to shut down if the ruling stands.

9/17/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :25

### **“US Poverty Report”**

The Census report showing -- the number of working poor climbed to its highest level since the 19-60's. The government also says the nation's poverty rate climbed to 14 point 3 percent. And it seems children are suffering the most. The Census report shows -- one in seven Americans live in poverty.

9/22/10: Good Morning CT 7am - :25

### **“AT&T Fighting Layoffs”**

More layoffs are looming at AT&T. There have been plenty of protests already and another meeting is expected today. News 8's Crystal Haynes is live from Science Park in New Haven this morning. Not the type of news anyone wants to hear these days more layoffs. More than 100 workers out of a job because AT&T says business is shrinking. Workers gathered outside Science Park yesterday in New Haven to talk about the cuts. The Union tells us A-T-and-T plans to lay off more than 150 workers...and that the company is offering buyouts to affected employees. Attorney General Richard Blumenthal says he will fight the layoffs. He says they impact customer service. A-T and T says most affected employees will have a guaranteed job offer in state ... AT&T STATEMENT - "While we're reducing some jobs in our shrinking wireline business, we continue to hire in those areas of the business that are growing - particularly wireless and video..." In a statement to News 8 they say... "While we're reducing some jobs in our shrinking wireline business, we continue to hire in those areas of the business that are growing - particularly wireless and video," This morning there will be another meeting to talk about these layoffs here at Science Park.